

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

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International  
Application No.: PCT/GB00/00210

U.S. Serial No.: unknown

International  
Filing Date: 25 January 2000 (25.01.00)

U.S. Filing Date: 19 July 2001 (19.07.01)

For: FIRE DETECTION METHOD

Box PCT  
commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket No. 41577/261336  
Date: 19 July 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified patent application prior to examination:

In the Claims

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein sampling is effected continuously.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein sampling is effected at predetermined time intervals.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion mobility spectrometer is connected to an alarm system.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein the alarm is triggered when a feature characteristic of thermal degradation is detected.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion mobility spectrometer is set to detect volatile material released from an electrical component.